Declassified and Approved For Release 2013/05/29 : CIA-RDP67-00318R000100790042-6

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MAY 11 1961

Intelligence Monitors

Since 1955, the President's Board of Consultants on Foreign Intelligence Activities has monitored the Central Intelligence Agency and at least thirty other intelligence activities of the nation, including those conducted by the armed services, the State Department, the Atomic Energy Commission and some units in the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Set up by former President Eisenhower, its first chairman was Dr. James R. Killian, Jr., who later became his chief scientific adviser.

President Kennedy has just named Dr. Killian again to head the board. As chairman of the Corporation of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Dr. Killian's qualifications were prominent for the science post. On the intelligence board is Robert A. Lovett, former Secretary of Defense, with experience notable both in diplomacy and in war. Also, the President has Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor, former Army chief of staff, making a searching investigation of American intelligence agencies. Such men, it would seem, are specifically fitted for the post of monitor of intelligence.

After the recent fiascos in Cuba and Laos, nothing less than the best trained mind in this field should be the President's chief adviser in this most sensitive area of national security.

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